

Senate Resolution 900

By: Senators Smith of the 52nd, Butterworth of the 50th, Mullis of the 53rd, Hudgens of the 47th, Hamrick of the 30th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Chemistry Section of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation's Division of
2 Forensic Sciences on receiving the 2009 August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science
3 Award from the International Association of Chiefs of Police; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, August Vollmer, a former chief of police and president of the International
5 Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), is known as the "Father of American Policing" and
6 promoted the use of new forensics technology, including fingerprinting, polygraph machines,
7 and crime laboratories; and

8 WHEREAS, the IACP, the world's largest and oldest nonprofit law enforcement organization
9 that includes over 20,000 law enforcement executives from over 89 countries, established the
10 August Vollmer Excellence in Forensic Science Award to honor the proactive and innovative
11 use of forensic technologies by law enforcement; and

12 WHEREAS, on Sunday, October 4, 2009, the Chemistry Section of the Georgia Bureau of
13 Investigation's (GBI) Crime Laboratory received this prestigious award for developing and
14 coordinating a successful marijuana identification training program for local law enforcement
15 agencies in Georgia; and

16 WHEREAS, as a result of this outstanding program, there are over 1,600 officers in Georgia
17 certified by the GBI Crime Laboratory to analyze marijuana seized in their jurisdictions and
18 to testify on their findings, allowing marijuana cases to move through the court system more
19 rapidly than other controlled substance cases; and

20 WHEREAS, because of this program, the laboratory has seen a 98 percent reduction of
21 marijuana cases tested, which has permitted drug scientists to concentrate their efforts on
22 more serious drug cases, resulting in better service to the criminal justice community in
23 Georgia.

24 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
25 commend the Chemistry Section of the GBI's Division of Forensic Sciences on its
26 outstanding service to the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, the criminal justice community,
27 this state, and our country.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
29 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Chemistry Section of the Georgia
30 Bureau of Investigation's Division of Forensic Services, in Decatur, Georgia.